

Article 4 Post-Baccalaureate Scholarships.

Section 34-21-60

Established; number.

There shall be established for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, scholarships for graduate education of nurses. These scholarships shall be awarded to applicants from the State of Alabama at large. They shall be distributed, insofar as practicable, throughout the state. The number of scholarships shall equal five percent of the total enrollment in graduate nursing programs in Alabama. Each scholarship is limited to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

(Acts 1977, 1st Ex. Sess., No. 68, p. 1491, §1; Act 2012-262, p. 507, §1.)

Section 34-21-61

Qualifications of applicants; applications; administration.

(a) To be eligible to receive a scholarship provided by this article, an applicant shall satisfy all of the following requirements:

- (1) Be a resident of the State of Alabama for a period of at least one year immediately preceding the time of making application.
 - (2) Be a person of good character.
 - (3) Have an active, unencumbered license as a professional nurse in Alabama.
 - (4) Be accepted for an Alabama graduate program conducted by an accredited college or university.
 - (5) Agree to practice professional nursing or become a nursing instructor in the State of Alabama for at least two years after completing the graduate degree.
- (b) The recipient of these scholarships may apply to the Board of Nursing for a waiver from these requirements for extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the recipient.
- (c) Preference shall be given to applicants pursuing a career in nursing education.
- (d) These scholarships shall be available to applicants seeking master's or doctorate degrees in nursing. Doctorate degrees in education are also acceptable provided the applicant holds a graduate degree in nursing.
- (e) Application for these scholarships shall be made to the Alabama Board of Nursing. The Board of Nursing shall receive five percent of the total appropriation to administer the scholarships.

(Acts 1977, 1st Ex. Sess., No. 68, p. 1491, §2; Act 2012-262, p. 507, §1.)

Section 34-21-62

Amount of scholarships; criteria for selection of recipients; renewal of scholarships; failure to complete course or service as a nurse.

Each scholarship provided for by this article shall not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per year, payable from funds appropriated to the Alabama Board of Nursing for this purpose. Contingent upon subsequent legislative funding of this program, a scholarship may either be renewed by the Alabama Board of Nursing for the same student or awarded to another applicant for the scholarship. Criteria for the selection of recipients and awarding of the scholarships shall be established by the Alabama Board of Nursing. These criteria shall be used as guides in the selection of the scholarship recipients from the various geographical areas of the state. In case a scholarship student fails to complete the course prescribed for a graduate degree in nursing, that student shall repay the amount of any scholarship funds received hereunder to the State Treasury. In the event of the scholarship recipient's death, the obligation for funds disbursed and not repaid shall be cancelled. In the event the scholarship recipient becomes mentally or physically impaired and is unable to complete a graduate course in nursing, or has received a graduate degree but is unable to complete one year of service as a nurse due to such disability, the obligation for funds disbursed and not repaid shall be cancelled.

(Acts 1977, 1st Ex. Sess., No. 68, p. 1491, §3; Act 2012-262, p. 507, §1.)

Section 34-21-63

Appropriations.

Any appropriation made to fund the scholarships may be made through the Education Trust Fund to the Alabama Board of Nursing for each fiscal year.

(Acts 1977, 1st Ex. Sess., No. 68, p. 1491, §4; Act 2012-262, p. 507, §1.)